

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY ~~Germany~~ (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 14 October 1948

SUBJECT: Tasks of the SED Party Control Commission and  
25X1A the Creation of a Functionary Activist Group

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1. A meeting was held on 10 October 1948 of the SED Party Control Commission (Überprüfungs Kommission) members for house blocks and districts of Kreise. The Berlin-Wilmersdorf meeting was presided over by Kreis Secretary Erpel, who instructed commission functionaries on the forthcoming work. After emphasizing that the commissions are to have no executive power but only a top advisory role, he named the following four goals of their work:

- a. Stimulating party work.
- b. Purging harmful elements from the party.
- c. Recruiting new members.
- d. Creating a functionary activist group.

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2. By direction of the Landesverband Berlin, the creation of a functionary activist group (called variously "Funktionäraktiv, Funktionärkorps, Funktionärstab") has top priority. The control commissions, in collaboration with the personnel commissions of house block and district headquarters, are to recommend personnel for the group to the Landesverband. Those recommended are not necessarily to be functionaries at present but on the basis of party training, reliability, and ability will be considered qualified to become functionaries. A special value will be placed on agitation, propaganda, organizational and class struggle experience, and ability. The Landesverband will then select from six to eight hundred (approximately six men per stadtbezirk) in all Berlin for appointment. Functionary activists are to constitute a special group directly under Landesverband control, ready and willing for any assignment. After appointment by the Landesverband, members of the activist group are to receive special identity documents, authority, and assignments. Investigations of functionaries and recommendations for appointment to the activist group are to be submitted not later than the end of November 1948.

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**Comment:** [redacted] a generally low opinion of the probable efficiency with which the purge of party ranks in the western sectors will be

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carried out. [REDACTED] it is the honest opinion of most functionaries that not more than four or five percent of the party membership in the western sectors would remain if unreliable and inactive elements were energetically weeded out. In contrast, however, he believes that the Landesverband is in earnest about the deadline for the submission of recommendations for the functionary activist group.)

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[REDACTED] Comment: It is difficult at present to prognosticate probable use of this group. A most probable explanation is that the group is not planned as a striking force in a "putsch" or as a secret apparatus, but is rather an attempt of the Landesverband to prepare a group to replace in an emergency the stagnated party organization of the western sectors. Several recent reports from source indicate that the Landesverband may be groping for a solution of this condition.)

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